

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A method for user equipment for a mobile communication system comprising:

receiving a message on said user equipment including a first list including a plurality of network identifiers corresponding to a plurality of available networks for a potential handover, the plurality of available networks are determined by the current active communication network by scanning an area for all available networks within the area, said receiving from a current active communication network while a call subject to a potential handover is in progress; and

selecting one network of the plurality of available networks to which the user equipment hands over based upon a comparing of said first list with a second list stored in the user equipment,

wherein said current active communication network signals one or more of the plurality of network identifiers corresponding to the plurality of available networks for the potential handover, and said receiving of said message occurs without said user equipment searching any communication network.

29. (Currently Amended) User equipment for a mobile communication network comprising:

means for receiving a message that includes a first list including a plurality of network identifiers corresponding to a plurality of available networks for a potential handover, from a current active communication network while a call subject to a potential handover is in progress, the plurality of available networks are determined by the current active communication network by scanning an area for all available networks within the area; and

means for selecting one network of the plurality of available networks to which the user equipment hands over based on a comparing of said first list with a second list stored in the user equipment, wherein said current active communication network signals one or more of the plurality of network identifiers corresponding to the plurality of available networks for the potential handover, and said receiving of said message occurs without said user equipment

searching any communication network.

30. – 31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A mobile communications network comprising or component thereof including:

means for ~~transmitting~~ receiving by a user equipment a message that includes a first list including a plurality of network identifiers corresponding to a plurality of available networks for a potential handover, the plurality of available networks are determined by a serving communication network by scanning an area for all available networks within the area, the message being transmitted from the serving ~~a current active~~ communication network while a call subject to a potential handover is in progress;

~~means for selecting one network of a plurality of networks to which the user equipment hands over based upon a comparing of said first list with a second list stored in the user equipment, said second list including at least one network identifier corresponding to a network that is never to be used;~~

means for receiving from user equipment communicating with the serving ~~current active~~ communication network an indication of at least one ~~[[a]]~~ preferred other network; and

means for supplying neighboring cell information to the user equipment for each of the at least one ~~[[the]]~~ preferred other network based on the indication, wherein said serving ~~current active~~ communication network signals one or more of the plurality of network identifiers corresponding to the plurality of available networks for the potential handover, and said transmitting ~~receiving~~ of said message occurs without said user equipment searching any communication network.

33. (Currently Amended) User equipment for a mobile communication network comprising:

a receiver for receiving a message that includes a first list of a plurality of network identifiers corresponding to a plurality of available networks for a potential handover, from a current active communication network while a call subject to a potential handover is in progress the plurality of available networks are determined by the current active communication network by scanning an area for all available networks within the area; and

a selector for selecting one network of the plurality of available networks to which the user equipment hands over based on a comparing of said first list with a second list stored in the user equipment wherein said current active communication network signals one or more of the plurality of network identifiers corresponding to the plurality of available networks for the potential handover, and said receiver receives said message without said user equipment searching any communication network.

34. (Previous Presented) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 28, wherein said message is a dedicated message for signaling available networks for handover.

35. (Previous Presented). The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 34, wherein said message is periodically transmitted by said current active network without a specific request.

36. (Previously Presented) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 28, further comprising:
storing said first list in said user equipment.

37. (Previous Presented) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 34, wherein said message includes a special identifier indicating that said message contains a list of available networks for handover.

38. (Previously Presented) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 36, further comprising:
receiving, by the user equipment, a second message including at least one network identifier corresponding to a network that is to be deleted from the first list.

39. (Previously Presented) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 28, further comprising:

comparing the received first list with a second list stored in the user equipment, said second list including at least one network identifier being an identifier of a network that is never to be used.

40. (New) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 28, further comprising:

transmitting a request, from the user equipment to the current active communication network for the first list, wherein said current active communication network scans an area for all available networks within the area in response to the request.

41. (New) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 28, further comprising:

transmitting from the user equipment to the current active communication network an indication of at least one preferred other network; and

receiving, by the user equipment, neighboring cell information for each of the at least one preferred other network based on the indication.

42. (New) The method for user equipment for a mobile communication system according to claim 41, wherein said neighboring cell information includes at least a network frequency and time slot.

43. (New) The mobile communications network of claim 32, further comprising:

means for scanning an area for all available networks within the area; and

means for storing a list of available networks based upon the scanning and corresponding cell information.

44. (New) The mobile communications network of claim 32, wherein the serving communication network is a UMTS network and at least one of the plurality of available networks is a GSM network.

45. (New) The mobile communications network of claim 32, wherein the serving communication network is a GSM network and at least one of the plurality of available networks is a UMTS network.

46. (New) The mobile communications network of claim 32, wherein the serving communication network is provided by a first network provider and at least one of the plurality of available networks is provided by a different network provider.

47. (New) The mobile communications network of claim 43, further comprising:
means for receiving a request, from the user equipment for the first list, wherein the means for transmitting is activated by the request.

48. (New) The mobile communications network of claim 43, wherein the means for scanning is in a base station.

49. (New) A method for user equipment for a mobile communication system comprising:
receiving a message on said user equipment including a first list including a plurality of network identifiers corresponding to a plurality of available networks for a potential handover, the plurality of available networks are determined by the current active communication network by based upon a location of said user equipment, said receiving from a current active communication network while a call subject to a potential handover is in progress; and
selecting one network of the plurality of available networks to which the user equipment hands over based upon a comparing of said first list with a second list stored in the user equipment,
wherein said current active communication network signals one or more of the plurality of network identifiers corresponding to the plurality of available networks for the potential handover, and said receiving of said message occurs without said user equipment searching any communication network.